

## **METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF WIRRAL**

STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 28 MARCH 2001

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### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 - MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MEMBERS**

#### 1. Executive Summary

This report encloses two Government papers. The first is the Government's views on the General Principles of Conduct in Local Government and is for noting. The second is a draft Model Code of Conduct for members upon which views are requested by 27 April 2001.

#### 2. Background

2.1 Part III of the Local Government Act 2000, introducing a new ethical code for members, was commenced on 19 December 2000. The Government have now published two documents:-

- (1) their response to the earlier consultation exercise concerning the General Principles of Conduct. This is attached at Appendix A for noting only;
- (2) a consultation paper containing a draft model code of conduct for members. This is attached at Appendix B and responses are invited by 27 April 2001.

2.2 The intention is that the draft principles will be laid before Government in Spring and following the consultation to produce the finished Code of Conduct in May or June.

#### 3. The Model Code

3.1 The proposed code is set out in Appendix B and deals with all the ethical issues relating to members. Rather than repeat the issues and questions here members are asked to read the Appendix and address their minds to the questions set out at the end of each section. Members of political groups may also feel it would be appropriate to consult their Leaders and party colleagues on their views in relation to the various issues raised.

3.2 Depending on members views responses can be made corporately, through this committee, and/or through individual or group responses.

4. Financial and Staffing Implications

4.1 There are no particular implications arising from this report.

5. Other Implications

There are none.

6. Recommendations

Members views are requested on the draft Model Code of Conduct for Members.

P.G. MANSON

Borough Solicitor  
and Secretary

PGM/LW.  
6 March 2001

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